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(54) **Pin diode switched RF step attenuator.**

(57) A dual-path, ladder-type variable step RF signal attenuator is provided. The ladder network is comprised of a number of asymmetric power splitting elements [81,85,89,93] and Pi-pad resistor attenuator elements [83,87,91,95]. The high-speed switching and long life characteristics of PIN diodes are utilized to switch resistive attenuator elements into or out of the ladder network to provide selectable values of signal attenuation.

EP 0 210 783 A3

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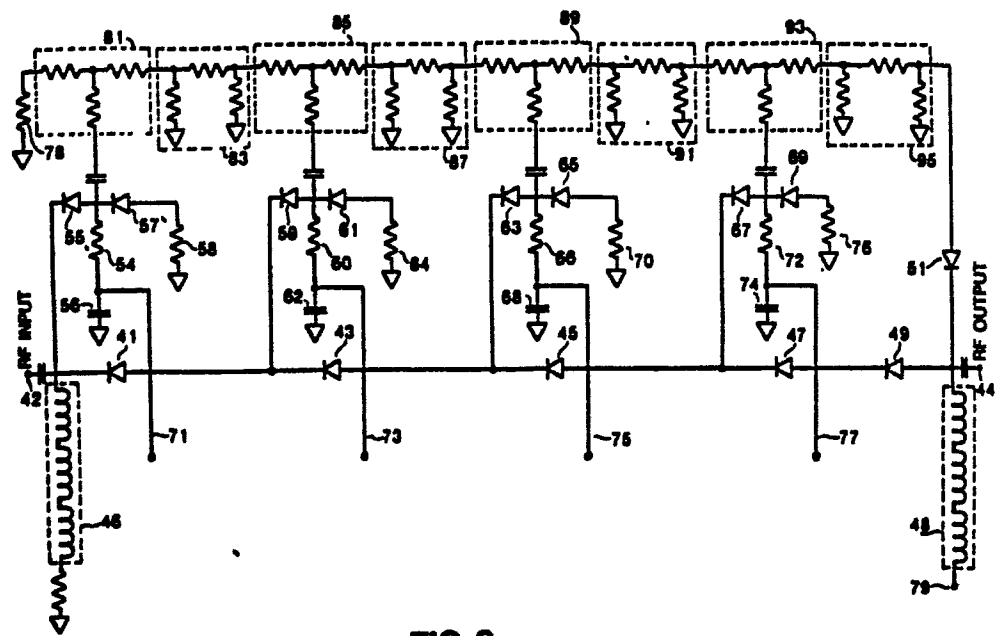


FIG 3



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

0210783

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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. 4)
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN, vol. 8, no. 285 (E-287)[1722], 26th December 1984; & JP-A-59 152 710 (HITACHI SEISAKUSHO K.K.) 31 Août 1984	1, 4	H 03 H 7/25
A	US-A-4 050 055 (CH. DILEO) * Whole document *	1, 2, 4	
A	US-A-3 518 585 (D. WILCOX) * Whole document *	1, 2, 3	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. 4)
			H 03 H H 03 G
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 19-06-1987	Examiner DECONINCK E.F.V.
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			